(c) the expenditure incurred so far on the project, the targets fixed for the project for 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 and the percentage achievement thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) RailTel was formed in September' 2000 and Railways' right of way (ROW) is in the process of being leased on a long-term annual lease basis. The optical fibre cable assets on about 7,000 Route kilometer are also in the process of getting transferred to the RailTel's equity. As per the Cabinet decision, the induction of Joint Venture partner(s) in the RailTel is in progress. RailTel has already initiated steps to roll out the network so as to connect major cities.

(b) No, Sir. RailTel Corporation of India Limited is headed by Managing Director. Besides, Director (Project) and Director (Finance) posts are being operated. Senior Railway officers have been nominated to look after the work of Managing Director, Director (Project) and Director (Finance).

(c) Rs. 15 crores as seed Capital has been transferred by Railways to RailTel Corporation of India Limited (Rail Tel), so far. Besides, RailTel Corporation of India Limited has secured loans for rolling out the OFC network Railway Budget for 2000-2001 had anticipated Rs. 500 crores from Right of Way which did not materialise. The Railway Budget for 2001-2002 has projected Rs. 700 crore from Right of Way which is also not likely to materialise due to value of Right of Way coming down and Railways' plan to lease the Right of Way on long term annual lease basis.

Doubling of Ramanagaram-Mysore Rail Line

2091. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has requested the Railways to approve the doubling of Ramanagaram-Mysore rail line;

(b) what is the estimated cost of the work;

(c) whether the Karnataka Government has offered to share 50% of the cost; and

(d) is so, the action, if any, taken to take up the above work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) Rs. 173.30 Cr.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Official level joint meeting between Railways and Government of Karnataka have been held to discuss for farming the scheme of the joint Venture of the said project. The State Government through K-Ride (a Joint Venture Company) has however not yet identified this work in their priority for funding.

Retrieval of Bogies

2092. SHRI KA. RA. SUBBIAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made extensive arrangements to retrieve bogies at the earliest at the time of accidents or during exigencies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total of 118 'A' Class Accident Relief Trains (ARTs), 74 on Broad Gauge routes and 44 on Meter Gauge routes with breakdown cranes and other relief equipment have been provided on selected junction stations, along with a team of staff who are experts in retrieving coaches involved in accidents.

Multi-Model Rail Traffic System in Hyderabad and Secunderabad

2093. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY :

SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether South Central Railway proposes to launch Multi-model Suburban Rail Traffic System integrating with road traffic in twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad;